

raise money every day for groceries, and she said: You have to look at the price of things because they are constantly going up.

That is happening again in Joe Biden's America. Families in Florida and across our Nation are suffering because of the Democrats' reckless spending spree led by Joe Biden.

Just take a look around. Average prices of everything—everything is up. Let's say families are filling up their tank once a week. If you drive a car, that means Joe Biden raised your expenses \$600 a year. If you drive a truck, that means Joe Biden raised your expenses by more than \$1,000 a year. And let's remember, half of Americans make less than \$35,000 a year. Inflation is a new tax on our families.

Instead of addressing this crisis that has hurt Americans, Biden and the Democrats are living in an economic fantasyland where debt doesn't matter, spending has no consequences, and inflation is impossible. They are ignoring the fact that our Nation is barreling towards \$30 trillion in debt. That is \$233,000 in debt for every family in America.

Now Democrats in the Senate want to spend another \$4 trillion of your money on a so-called infrastructure plan that has little to do with infrastructure. They don't care if Americans get a return on their hard-earned tax dollars.

But the truth is, we can't keep spending like this. There will be a day of reckoning coming if we don't act to get our fiscal house in order. That is why I have introduced legislation, the Federal Debt Emergency Control Act, to take real steps to rein in Washington's out-of-control spending. That includes preventing Biden and the Democrats from mindlessly spending by requiring that two-thirds of the Senate vote to increase the debt before approving any bill with deficit spending.

It would terminate any unobligated funding from the American Rescue Plan and any previous stimulus bills, sending it back to the Treasury General Fund for deficit reduction.

Finally, it would ensure that any bill reducing the debt by at least 5 percent over 10 years is fast-tracked through the legislative process.

We are in a debt crisis. This isn't monopoly money; it is Americans' money, and we have to be responsible with it. It is time to end the madness, and it is time to stand up for low- and fixed-income families and for small businesses that bear the brunt of President Biden's inflation crisis. With the debt ceiling suspension expiring on July 31, we must tackle these issues head-on and chart a new and fiscally responsible path forward that protects families and our Nation's financial security.

I look forward to every fiscally responsible Republican and Democrat working with me to reject Biden's insane spending spree, quickly pass my bill, and protect the future of this Nation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that upon disposition of the Nanda nomination, the Senate resume consideration of the Liang nomination at 5:30 today and the Senate vote on the motions to invoke cloture on the Liang and Remy nominations in the order listed; further, I ask that the cloture motion on the Cunningham nomination ripen upon disposition of the Remy nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF JOCELYN SAMUELS

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I was proud to vote to confirm Jocelyn Samuels to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission last year when she was confirmed in a bipartisan vote, and I am proud to do so again.

The EEOC has a critical role to play in protecting workers' rights and addressing inequities in our economy which disproportionately disadvantage women, people of color, people with disabilities, and more. For example, it is responsible for enforcing discrimination and harassment laws and works to address the gender pay gap.

Workers need a champion in the EEOC fighting for them, and Ms. Samuels has proven over her nearly two decades of experience with the Federal Government and her recent service as a Commissioner of the EEOC that she is that champion.

From pushing to pass the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act as vice president of education and employment at the National Women's Law Center to leading civil rights efforts at the Department of Justice and Department of Health and Human Services, to working as a staffer on the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee and a senior attorney at the EEOC, she has spent her career working to address discrimination and ensure no one is treated unfairly because of their age, sex, including sexual orientation and gender identity, race, religion, or disability.

I was pleased to see her nomination advanced out of our HELP Committee with bipartisan support, and I hope to see similar bipartisan support for her final confirmation.

NOMINATION OF SEEMA NANDA

Madam President, I would also like to urge my colleagues to join me in voting to confirm Seema Nanda as Solicitor for the Department of Labor—another nominee who was advanced from the HELP Committee on a bipartisan vote.

Ms. Nanda has served in the Department of Labor previously as Deputy Chief of Staff, Deputy Solicitor of Labor, and Chief of Staff. She previously served as a career attorney in the Department of Justice, where she fought to defend immigrant workers from discrimination and held employers accountable for unfair hiring prac-

tices. She has proven herself to be an excellent choice for this important role.

We take some hard votes in this Chamber. These should not be among them. Workers are the backbone of our economy, and that means every one of us should be fighting for them and voting to confirm Commissioner Samuels and Ms. Nanda, who will fight for them as well.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON SAMUELS NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Samuels nomination?

Mrs. MURRAY. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 260 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Rosen
Blumenthal	Kaine	Sanders
Booker	Kelly	Schatz
Brown	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cardin	Leahy	Sinema
Carper	Lujan	Smith
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Collins	Markey	Tester
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warnock
Durbin	Murphy	Warren
Feinstein	Murray	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Wyden
Hassan	Padilla	
Heinrich	Peters	

NAYS—47

Barrasso	Grassley	Risch
Blackburn	Hagerty	Romney
Blunt	Hawley	Rounds
Boozman	Hooven	Rubio
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Burr	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Capito	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shelby
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Lummis	Tillis
Crapo	Marshall	Toomey
Cruz	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Paul	Young
Fischer	Portman	

NOT VOTING—1

Graham

The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE ON NANDA NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Nanda nomination?

Mr. MANCHIN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM).

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 261 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Romney
Blumenthal	Kaine	Rosen
Booker	Kelly	Sanders
Brown	King	Schatz
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Lujan	Sinema
Casey	Manchin	Smith
Collins	Markey	Stabenow
Coons	Menendez	Tester
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Feinstein	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Hassan	Padilla	Wyden
Heinrich	Peters	

NAYS—46

Barrasso	Grassley	Risch
Blackburn	Hagerty	Rounds
Blunt	Hawley	Rubio
Boozman	Hoeven	Sasse
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Burr	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Capito	Johnson	Shelby
Cassidy	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lankford	Thune
Cotton	Lee	Tillis
Cramer	Lummis	Toomey
Crapo	Marshall	Tuberville
Cruz	McConnell	Wicker
Daines	Moran	Young
Ernst	Paul	
Fischer	Portman	

NOT VOTING—1

Graham

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the Liang nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of J. Nellie Liang, of Maryland, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

HONORING THE MEMORIES OF THE VICTIMS OF THE BUILDING COLLAPSE IN SURFSIDE, FLORIDA, ON JUNE 24, 2021, AND THE BRAVERY AND SELFLESS SERVICE OF THE INDIVIDUALS WHO RESPONDED TO THE BUILDING COLLAPSE

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I would like to thank my colleague Senator RUBIO for joining me to honor the lives lost in the horrific tragedy on June 24, when the Champlain Towers South condo building in Surfside, FL, suddenly collapsed in the middle of the night, and honor the brave men and women that have risked their lives in search, rescue, and recovery efforts.

Senator RUBIO and I were on the ground in Surfside following the collapse, talking to families, first responders, and members of the community. The pain these families are experiencing is unimaginable. Those unexpectedly lost in this horrific tragedy were mothers, fathers, grandfathers and grandmothers, friends, aunts, uncles, and cousins. They were children and grandchildren with their full lives ahead of them.

I can't imagine losing any member of my family like this, but the thought of losing one of my grandchildren is too painful to imagine. We mourn with these families, and our hearts break for them. We continue to pray for the Surfside community, the families and loved ones of those lost, and all of those working tirelessly to serve the Surfside community.

In the face of tremendous tragedy, our first responders ran into the danger. They are heroes. They immediately answered the call to serve, and firefighters, law enforcement officers, rescue and recovery crews, emergency medical technicians, physicians, nurses, and others from across the State of Florida and the Nation came rushing to save them.

When you meet with the first responders—I mean, they are working tirelessly trying to find somebody that has survived, and your heart goes out to them as they went from rescue to recovery. Miami-Dade Fire Rescue, the Miami-Dade Police Department, the Surfside Police Department, and others from around the area were there every step of the way.

Some of these responders lost family in the collapse; yet they still answered the call. We heard the absolutely devastating story of a Miami-Dade firefighter who carried the body of his own 7-year-old daughter, Stella, away from the rubble. You just can't even begin to imagine the pain and loss experienced by this father.

International rescue crews and emergency support organizations from Israel and Mexico also responded to the site to aid in the search and rescue efforts. Numerous volunteer organizations responded, including the Red Cross, as well as community leaders and individuals offering resources, support, and comfort to the survivors and community in Surfside.

Our Jewish community, particularly Orthodox Jews, have been especially affected by this tragedy, and we thank CSE, Hatzalah, ZAKA, and all those who have worked selflessly to support our Jewish community. We can never thank these brave men and women enough for their bravery and determination in the face of this terrible tragedy.

I know right now we all have a lot of unanswered questions. We are all going to work tirelessly to understand exactly what happened. And while we can't bring back the lives lost, I will always work to honor those lost and will be relentless in the search for an-

swers to make sure a tragedy like this never happens again.

As if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 300, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 300) honoring the memories of the victims of the building collapse in Surfside, Florida, on June 24, 2021, and the bravery and selfless service of the individuals who responded to the building collapse.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 300) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I appreciate the unanimous support of my Senate colleagues passing this resolution to honor the lives lost in the horrific tragedy in Surfside, and I thank the many first responders for their incredible bravery in the search and rescue and recovery efforts.

Our hearts are broken, but we stand together. Florida is "Surfside Strong."

I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

GUN VIOLENCE

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, my colleagues, it is not a coincidence that in 2020, gun sales in this country spiked by 40 percent. It is an extraordinary increase in gun sales. And homicides in this country increased by 30 percent. Violent crime is increasing in the country. You can't miss that if you turn on the news at night.

And there can be no doubt that our Nation's gun laws—the loosest and most loophole-ridden in the Nation—are a primary contributor to this spike in gun crime.

I want to spend just a few minutes this afternoon making sure that all of my colleagues understand that if we want to do something about violent crime in this country, then you cannot continue to close your eyes to the fact that we are allowing criminals all across this country to traffic dangerous weapons that are being used in gun homicides.

First, let's burst the bubble of the gun lobby. Their primary argument is that more guns keep people safer. Well,